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OCT 24 2006

REMARKS

This amendment is filed in response to the non-final Office Action issued June 29, 2006.

I. Abstract

The abstract has been amended to provide a somewhat more concise wording with less than 150 words as required by the rules.

II. Obviousness Rejection of Claims 1 to 11, 13, 15, and 18 to 26

Claims 1 to 11, 13, 15, and 18 to 26 were rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) over Weiss, et al (U.S. Patent 6,437,357 B1), in view of Henley, et al (U.S. Patent 5,790,247).

1. Method Claims

Claim 1 has been amended to include the features and limitations of claim 3.

One advantage of the claimed method for detecting faults in a sheet of transparent material, such as glass, is that the method is sensitive to faults in the transparent material that occur exclusively in the interior of the transparent material. Bright field absorption signals can be predominantly due to surface faults, such as dirt, which are easily removed. The applicants' claimed method permits exclusive detection of faults that occur in the interior or within the glass sheet. See page 5, lines 9 to 12, of the applicants' specification.